

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/006803

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> B23H7/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> B23H7/20Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2005  
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2005 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2005

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y A	JP 5-200626 A (Mitsubishi Electric Corp.), 10 August, 1993 (10.08.93), Column 1, lines 2 to 5 (Family: none)	1-2, 5 3-4, 6
Y A	JP 62-173142 A (Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd.), 30 July, 1987 (30.07.87), Page 2, lower left column, line 3 to page 3, upper left column, line 20 (Family: none)	1-2, 5 3-4, 6
X A	JP 1-289624 A (Institute of Technology Precision Electrical Discharge Work's), 21 November, 1989 (21.11.89), Full text (Family: none)	3-4, 6 1-2, 5

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
26 August, 2005 (26.08.05)Date of mailing of the international search report  
13 September, 2005 (13.09.05)Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

## A. 発明の属する分野の分類 (国際特許分類 (IPC))

Int.Cl.<sup>7</sup> B23H7/20

## B. 調査を行った分野

調査を行った最小限資料 (国際特許分類 (IPC))

Int.Cl.<sup>7</sup> B23H7/20

最小限資料以外の資料で調査を行った分野に含まれるもの

日本国実用新案公報	1922-1996年
日本国公開実用新案公報	1971-2005年
日本国実用新案登録公報	1996-2005年
日本国登録実用新案公報	1994-2005年

国際調査で使用した電子データベース (データベースの名称、調査に使用した用語)

## C. 関連すると認められる文献

引用文献の カテゴリー*	引用文献名 及び一部の箇所が関連するときは、その関連する箇所の表示	関連する 請求の範囲の番号
Y A	JP 5-200626 A (三菱電機株式会社) 1993. 08. 10, 第 1 欄第 2-5 行 (ファミリーなし)	1-2, 5 3-4, 6
Y A	JP 62-173142 A (松下電工株式会社) 1987. 07. 30, 第 2 頁左下欄第 3 行~第 3 頁左上欄第 20 行 (ファミリーなし)	1-2, 5 3-4, 6
X A	JP 1-289624 A (株式会社放電精密加工研究所) 1989. 11. 21, 全文 (ファミリーなし)	3-4, 6 1-2, 5

C 欄の続きにも文献が列挙されている。

パテントファミリーに関する別紙を参照。

## \* 引用文献のカテゴリー

- 「A」特に関連のある文献ではなく、一般的技術水準を示すもの  
「E」国際出願日前の出願または特許であるが、国際出願日以後に公表されたもの  
「L」優先権主張に疑義を提起する文献又は他の文献の発行日若しくは他の特別な理由を確立するために引用する文献 (理由を付す)  
「O」口頭による開示、使用、展示等に言及する文献  
「P」国際出願日前で、かつ優先権の主張の基礎となる出願

の日の後に公表された文献

- 「T」国際出願日又は優先日後に公表された文献であって出願と矛盾するものではなく、発明の原理又は理論の理解のために引用するもの  
「X」特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献のみで発明の新規性又は進歩性がないと考えられるもの  
「Y」特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献と他の 1 以上の文献との、当業者にとって自明である組合せによって進歩性がないと考えられるもの  
「&」同一パテントファミリー文献

国際調査を完了した日

26. 08. 2005

国際調査報告の発送日

13. 09. 2005

国際調査機関の名称及びあて先

日本国特許庁 (ISA/J P)

郵便番号 100-8915

東京都千代田区霞が関三丁目 4 番 3 号

特許庁審査官 (権限のある職員)

小野田 達志

電話番号 03-3581-1101 内線 3364

3P

3117

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 5-698WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2005/006803	International filing date (day/month/year) 30 March 2005 (30.03.2005)	Priority date (day/month/year) 30 March 2004 (30.03.2004)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant SODICK CO., LTD.			

<p>1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.</p>																
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table> <p>4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report															
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority															
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability															
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention															
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement															
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited															
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application															
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application															

<p>The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p> <p>Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70</p>	<p>Date of issuance of this report 19 October 2006 (19.10.2006)</p>
	<p>Authorized officer</p> <p><b>Yoshiko Kuwahara</b></p> <p>e-mail: pt07@wipo.int</p>

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

**5-698WO**

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

**PCT/JP2005/006803**

International filing date (day/month/year)

**30.03.2005**

Priority date (day/month/year)

**30.03.2004**

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

**SODICK CO., LTD.**

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited.
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/006803

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language  
\_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/006803

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-6	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-6	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-6	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 5-200626 A (Mitsubishi Electric Corp.), 10 August 1993, page 1, lines 2-5  
(Family: none)

Document 2: JP 62-173142 A (Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd.), 30 July 1987, page 2,  
lower left column, line 3 to page 3, upper left column, line 20 (Family: none)

Document 3: JP 1-289624 A (Institute for Precision Discharge Processing), 21 November  
1989, Full text (Family: none)

The inventions of claims 1-2, 5 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1-2 cited in the ISR. Creating the inventions of claims 1-2 by employing the method for estimating the processing time described in document 2 as the method for estimating the set processing time in the invention described in document 1 would be easily invented by a person skilled in the art. Furthermore, the conditions such as a current peak and ON time are merely matters of design variation that have to be selected appropriately according to the surface roughness that is wished to be realized.

The inventions of claims 3-4, 6 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 3 cited in the ISR. It is obvious to a person skilled in the art that the removal volume per one discharge spark is changed if the processing conditions are changed and that the necessary number of discharge cycles changes if the removal surface area changes. Furthermore, the conditions such as a current peak and ON time are merely matters of design variation that have to be selected appropriately according to the surface roughness that is wished to be realized.